GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4819
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
INDIRA GANDHI CANAL
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Canal, the only largest irrigation project of Thar desert of Rajasthan has not been completed so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated cost, present status, the total funds provided by the Union Government and spent by the State Government so far and the estimated expenditure is likely to be incurred in completing the project;

(d) the funds likely to be provided by the Union Government to the State Government for the purpose under Accelaration Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) during the current financial year; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be completed ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

(SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inadequate financial allocations and increase in scope of works from time to time.

(c) The works of Stage-I of the Indira Gandhi Canalproject are mostly complete. A revised project estimate amounting to Rs.3398.91 crores for Stage-II has been cleared by Central Water Commission in June 1996.An Amount of Rs.2091 crores has been spent by the State Government upto March 2000 including Rs.771 crores provided by the Union Government under various schemes.The cost likely to be incurred in completing the project is estimated to be Rs.3595 crores. A total of 19.63 lac hectares of culturable command area has to be covered by canal network to provide irrigation facility in the desert area, of which 12.78 lac hectares could be covered upto March, 2000.

(d) Assistance under Accelerated irrigation Benefit Programme during the current financialyear will depend on the needs of the project and the request of the State Government for such funds.

(e) The project is likely to be completed by the year 2005 subject to availability of adequate funds.